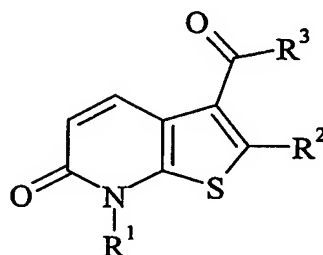


Claims:

1. A compound of formula (I), or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof:

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(I)

wherein

10 R^1 represents (C_{3-7} cycloalkyl)methyl, aryl or heteroaryl, any of which groups may be optionally substituted by one or more substituents;

R^2 represents hydrogen, nitro, cyano, $-CO_2R^a$, $-CONR^bR^c$, $-NR^bR^c$, $-NR^dCOR^a$, $-NR^dCO_2R^a$, $-NR^dCONR^bR^c$, $-NR^dSO_2R^a$ or $-NR^dCONHNHSO_2R^a$;

R^3 represents an optionally substituted aryl or heteroaryl group;

15 R^a represents hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl [optionally substituted by amino, C_{1-6} alkylamino or di(C_{1-6})alkylamino] or C_{3-7} heterocycloalkyl (optionally substituted by C_{1-6} alkyl);

20 R^b represents hydrogen, C_{1-6} alkyl [optionally substituted by hydroxy, amino, C_{1-6} alkylamino, di(C_{1-6})alkylamino or C_{3-7} heterocycloalkyl], C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{3-7} cycloalkyl [optionally substituted by amino, C_{1-6} alkylamino or di(C_{1-6})alkylamino] or C_{3-7} heterocycloalkyl (optionally substituted by C_{1-6} alkyl); and

R^c represents hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl; or

25 R^b and R^c , when taken together with the nitrogen atom to which they are attached, represent azetidin-1-yl [optionally substituted by hydroxy, amino, C_{1-6} alkylamino or di(C_{1-6})alkylamino], pyrrolidin-1-yl [optionally substituted by hydroxy, hydroxymethyl, amino, C_{1-6} alkylamino or di(C_{1-6})alkylamino], piperidin-1-yl [optionally substituted by hydroxy, amino, C_{1-6} alkylamino or di(C_{1-6})alkylamino], piperazin-1-yl (optionally substituted by C_{1-6} alkyl) or morpholin-4-yl; and

R^d represents hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl.

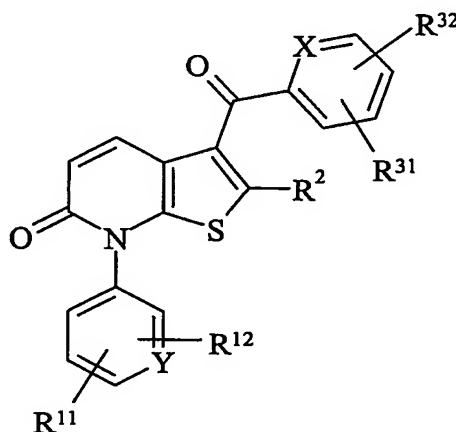
2. A compound as claimed in claim 1 wherein R¹ represents cyclopropylmethyl, phenyl, fluorophenyl, chlorophenyl, difluorophenyl, methylphenyl, pyridinyl or dimethylamino-pyridinyl.

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3. A compound as claimed in claim 1 or claim 2 wherein R³ represents phenyl, fluorophenyl, difluorophenyl, chlorophenyl, (chloro)(fluoro)phenyl, bromophenyl, cyanophenyl, methylphenyl, (fluoro)(methyl)phenyl, dimethylphenyl, trifluoromethylphenyl, methoxyphenyl, (ethoxy)(methyl)phenyl, difluoromethoxy-phenyl, trifluoromethoxy-phenyl, pyridinyl, methylpyridinyl, thienyl or thiazolyl.

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4. A compound as claimed in claim 1 represented by formula (IIA), and pharmaceutically acceptable salts and solvates thereof:



15

(IIA)

wherein

X represents CH or N;

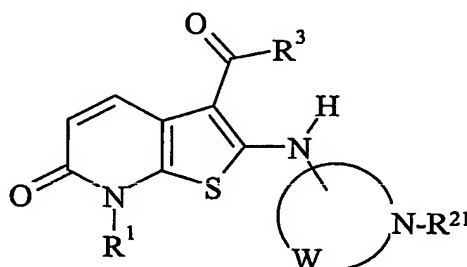
Y represents CH or N;

20 R¹¹, R¹², R³¹ and R³² independently represent hydrogen, halogen, cyano, nitro, C₁₋₆ alkyl, trifluoromethyl, hydroxy, C₁₋₆ alkoxy, difluoromethoxy, trifluoromethoxy, C₁₋₆ alkylsulphonyl, amino, C₁₋₆ alkylamino, di(C₁₋₆)alkylamino, aminocarbonyl or C₂₋₆ alkoxycarbonyl; and

R² is as defined in claim 1.

5. A compound as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein R^2 represents $-NR^bR^c$ in which R^b and R^c are as defined in claim 1.

- 5 6. A compound as claimed in claim 1 represented by formula (IIB), and pharmaceutically acceptable salts and solvates thereof:



(IIB)

- 10 wherein

W represents the residue of an azetidine, pyrrolidine or piperidine ring;
 R^{21} represents hydrogen or C_{1-6} alkyl; and
 R^1 and R^3 are as defined in claim 1.

- 15 7. A compound as claimed in claim 6 wherein R^{21} represents methyl.

8. A compound as claimed in claim 1 as herein specifically disclosed in any one of the Examples.

- 20 9. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof, in association with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

- 25 10. The use of a compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof, for the manufacture of a medicament for the treatment and/or prevention of a disorder for which an inhibitor of p38 MAP kinase is indicated.

11. A method for the treatment and/or prevention of a disorder for which an inhibitor of p38 MAP kinase is indicated, which comprises administering to a patient in need of such treatment an effective amount of a compound of formula (1) as defined in claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or solvate thereof.
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